

HEALTH

A 23/10/20

C.B.

54

(3) RINGWOOD

hampshire

RURAL DISTRICT OF
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor

FOR THE YEAR

1949



RURAL DISTRICT OF
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1949



PUBLIC HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MR. E. G. HARVEY, (*Chairman*).
MAJOR W. O. CAMPBELL, M.C., J.P.
LT. COLONEL SIR GEORGE MEYRICK, Bt., D.L., J.P.
MR. W. T. ALWAY, J.P., C.A.
MR. G. A. BAKER.
MR. H. S. BEALE.
MRS. P. BELL.
MR. R. S. BOYT.
MR. H. W. BROOKS.
DR. A. W. BROWN.
MR. C. NORMAN BROWN, J.P.
MR. E. C. BURNS.
MRS. A. T. MORLEY HEWITT.
MR. H. A. KING.
MR. E. KITNEY.
CAPT. R. LORT-PHILLIPS.
MRS. CLAUDE MEESON.
THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF NORMANTON
MR. E. H. L. POOLE.
LADY SELBY.
MAJOR W. B. SHAKESPEAR.
MAJOR E. J. STANFORD, M.C., T.D.
MR. A. P. R. THOMPSON.
MR. H. WILLITTS.
MR. D. H. WILMER.
MR. H. F. WILSON.
MAJOR COLIN ZEIGLER, D.S.O., C.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

D. J. N. McNAB, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

(Also Medical Officer of Health of Borough of Christchurch and an
Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire)

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:


R. A. UPSTONE, Cert. R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

W. W. DYSON, Cert. R.S.I.

S. MAHER, Cert. R.S.I.

E. M. ORGAN, Cert. R.S.I. (from 1.1.49.)



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30034887>

**RURAL DISTRICT OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE.
ANNUAL REPORT
for the year 1949**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE.

I submit for your information and consideration my third Annual Report on the health and circumstances of your district.

This has been the first full year of the working of the National Health Service Act whereby the emphasis in medicine has been directed towards its curative aspects with a resultant falling off in the attention received by the less glamorous though fundamentally more important subject of prevention. The original estimates of the cost of the scheme have proved to be grossly in error, and the money spent on it has progressively increased. The financial rewards payable to practitioners, both medical and dental, participating in the scheme have proved so much more attractive that a high proportion of dentists have left local authority practice resulting in a virtual breakdown of school and maternity dental services in many areas, and the number of young doctors proposing to enter the public health service has fallen off to such an extent that D.P.H. courses have had to be cancelled. The diphtheria immunisation rate has decreased and the infant vaccination rate has fallen to a record low level. The waiting time for admission of the average tuberculous patient to hospital has progressively increased, due largely to staffing difficulties, and this unfortunately at a time when there are more effective treatments available for this disease than ever before.

The National Assistance Act, 1948, was described as "the final step in the break-up of the existing poor law" and it may well be that the National Health Service Act, 1946, is the initial step in the break up of the public health service as we know it.

Natural and Social Conditions

The Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge covers a wide strip of country along the western border of Hampshire. It embraces the valley of the River Avon from the borders of Wiltshire in the north to the ancient borough of Christchurch in the South. To the east the District includes a considerable portion of the New Forest.

Geologically, the district in the main is made up of the Eocene formation known as the Bracklesham beds and the Bagshot sands, but in the extreme north there is an area of typical chalk down country. The Avon Valley is largely covered with gravel and gravelly soil.

Agriculture, with the emphasis on milk production is the principal occupation but there are a large number of light industries well established in the towns.

The District contains sixteen parishes and has a rising population which has now reached 22,860. The total area comprises 90,140 acres, approximately 140 square miles.

RAINFALL FOR 1949.

	<i>ins.</i>		<i>ins.</i>
January	.90	July	.61
February	1.67	August	1.59
March	1.50	September	2.63
April	1.80	October	7.46
May	1.59	November	4.91
June	.33	December	1.62
TOTAL: 26.61 ins.			

GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA. 90,140 acres.

POPULATION. Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1949—22,590 plus 270 service personnel.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES. Approximately 7,087.

RATEABLE VALUE AT 1/4/49. £146,856.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE 1949-50. £598 15s. 0d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1949, (as supplied by the Registrar-General).

LIVE BIRTHS.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Total	..	..	..	..	421	207	214
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	392	192	200
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	29	15	14
STILL BIRTHS.							
Total	..	..	..	..	11	6	5
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	10	6	4
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
DEATHS.							
Total	..	..	..	..	285	127	158
INFANT MORTALITY							
Total	..	..	..	..	7	4	3
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	7	4	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
MATERNAL MORTALITY							
Deaths from Maternal causes	..				1	—	1

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

	<i>Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
BIRTH RATE. per 1,000 estimated population	18.64	16.7
STILL-BIRTH RATE. per 1,000 population	0.49	0.39
DEATH RATE. per 1,000 population	12.6	11.7
INFANT MORTALITY RATE. (under 1 year of age) All causes per 1,000 live births	16	32.
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE. per 1,000 total (live & still) births.		
Abortion with Sepsis	0.00	0.11
Abortion without Sepsis	0.00	0.05
Puerperal infection	0.00	0.11
Other maternal causes	2.31	0.71
SPECIAL CAUSES. Death Rate per 1,000 population.		
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Influenza	0.09	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	0.00	3.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	0.09	0.01
Pneumonia	0.62	0.51
Tuberculosis	0.44	0.45

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

(Since the District was formed in 1932).

Year	Popu- lation	Ringwood & Fordingbridge			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1932	18,400	59.8	15.4	12.6	65	15.3	12
1936	18,640	48.2	13.3	13.1	59	14.8	12.1
1940	20,430	45.1	14.1	13.2	55	14.6	14.3
1944	19,520	25.3	16.2	12.6	46	17.6	11.6
1945	19,350	53.1	17.1	13.2	46	16.1	11.4
1946	20,440	18.6	18.4	13.5	43	19.1	11.5
1947	21,360	36	22.09	13.6	41	20.5	12
1948	22,270	28	20.29	10.8	34	17.9	10.8
1949	22,590	16	18.64	12.6	32	16.7	11.7

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	1	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	3	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	2	—
9. Influenza	—	2
10. Measles	—	1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis (Infantile Paralysis)	2	—
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis (Sleepy Sickness)	1	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesphagus (M)	—	—
Uterus (F)	—	1
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	8	1
15. Cancer of breast	—	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	10	18
17. Diabetes	—	3
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions	18	20
19. Heart Diseases	39	58
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	7	5
21. Bronchitis	3	3
22. Pneumonia	4	10
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	3
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	1
25. Diarrhoea under two years	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	1
27. Other digestive diseases	5	3
28. Nephritis	2	5
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion sepsis	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	1
31. Premature birth	—	1
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	3	1
33. Suicide	—	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	3	1
35. Other Violent causes	2	4
36. All other Causes	11	8
Total (All Causes) ..	127	158

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

With the exception of Measles the infectious disease figures throughout the year remained at a low level. The Measles outbreak commenced in January and lasted until July. It subsided to a large extent in the southern part of the area by April, but in May it spread to Fordingbridge and the villages north of it where there had been little previous Measles for many years. The figure of 545 notifications was the highest recorded since 1941, when an outbreak of even greater severity occurred. It should be remembered that the notification figure is not an accurate record of the number of cases as in a condition such as Measles the family doctor is frequently not consulted. The mortality in this outbreak was exceedingly low and only one child was certified as having died from Measles throughout the year.

Two cases of diphtheria were notified during the year and treated in the Salisbury Isolation Hospital. In each case it proved impossible to isolate the specific organism from the patient and the diagnosis was confirmed purely on clinical grounds. This inevitably casts some doubt on the authenticity of the cases but we must accept the opinion of the physician in charge. One child had been immunised and the other had not. Both made an uneventful recovery.

The continued low prevalence of diphtheria is a measure of the success of diphtheria immunisation in the control of this deadly disease.

The table shows the notifications throughout 1949, with comparative notification rates for the whole of England and Wales.

<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 of the population</i>	
		<i>Ringwood & Fordingbridge</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Scarlet Fever	11	0.49	1.63
Whooping Cough	47	2.08	2.39
Diphtheria	2	0.09	0.04
Erysipelas	2	0.09	0.19
Measles	545	24.12	8.95
Pneumonia	31	1.37	0.80
Poliomelitis and Polioencephalitis	3	0.13	0.14
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0.04	0.02
Food Poisoning	1	0.04	0.14
Ophtalmia Neonatorum	1		
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	0.09	6.31

POLIOMYELITIS.

The country as a whole experienced another severe epidemic of poliomyelitis comparable with, but not so severe as, the epidemic of 1947. Probably owing to the prolonged fine summer and early

autumn the peak of the epidemic was not reached until mid October, five or six weeks later than is usual. Considering the severity of the outbreak we were singularly fortunate in this area since only two cases of poliomyelitis and one of polioencephalitis were notified throughout the whole year. The case of polioencephalitis, a 17 month child died. Two further cases of poliomyelitis occurring in residents from this area, and almost certainly infected here, were notified in other areas. One of these cases died. In every case a full enquiry was made. No source of infection was discovered except in one instance where there was a remote connection between two of the cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The figures for diphtheria immunisation show a considerable reduction during the year under review and this can be attributed in the main to the conditions introduced by the National Health Service Act. In the past most of our immunisation has been carried out by the General Practitioners who were paid a fee for this work by the County Council. Since the coming into force of the National Health Service Act the administration of the immunising agent is considered by the Government merely to be an item of service which must be given as part of his duty by the National Health Service practitioner, and for which therefore, no additional fee is payable. The Government agreed however, that the practitioner should be paid a notification fee by the Local Health Authority for sending in a record of the carrying out of the immunisation, and negotiations took place between the various interested parties to agree on this fee. These negotiations were exceedingly protracted and final agreement was not reached until more than 18 months after the Act came into force. The effect of the prolonged delay and the uncertainty and pessimism concerning the eventual result was to cause a marked falling off in enthusiasm for immunisation by the General Practitioner which is reflected in the figures.

It is to be hoped that now that the matter is settled the figures will commence to rise again, though it is possible that the increased work which now falls to the average practitioner together with the smaller financial inducement will give him less time and less inclination to try to persuade the doubtful parent than was formerly the case.

During the year 348 children were immunised for the first time, 251 of these were under the age of five, and 97 were over five. In addition 626 children previously immunised received refresher doses, the majority of which were administered at special sessions held in schools.

The proportion of children born within the previous twelve months who have been immunised is 50%. 68% of children under 15 have at one time or another received immunisation treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES.

Throughout the year the tuberculosis services have been administered by the Regional Hospital Boards and in this area patients are dealt with at two chest clinics, one at Christchurch which serves the area south of Fordingbridge, and the other at Salisbury which patients north of Fordingbridge attend. As I indicated last year I consider this arrangement to be unsatisfactory, since the emphasis of treatment is laid on the cure of the established case with a diminution in the attention paid to the preventive aspect of a condition which is basically after all an infectious disease. New notifications are of course sent to me but I receive no information as to what action, if any, is taken to ascertain and deal with contacts. The present remedy would seem to be for the Health Department to conduct its own investigation on receipt of each notification, but this would entail duplication of effort and an annoying increase in the enquiries at the home at a time when the wretched family is already distressed and harrassed. Moreover, we should frequently find ourselves in disagreement with the chest physician over the type of case which should be admitted to hospital. He naturally wants to admit the case who is likely to benefit most in the shortest time from hospital treatment, while our primary consideration is the segregation and treatment of the infectious case who is surrounded by susceptible contacts.

During the year an enquiry was made into the condition of a number of patients figuring on the register of whom there was no recent information. As a result 104 cases were removed from the register and there now remains 131 names of people living in the area who are suffering from tuberculosis. Of this number 92 are suffering from pulmonary disease, and 39 non-pulmonary disease.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1947—1949.

	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths.</i>			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1947	12	5	3	1	4	4	0	1
1948	13	5	3	2	3	2	0	0
1949	12	14	2	2	3	4	2	1

There is no evidence of excessive incidence or mortality though there is a disturbing increase in the notification of pulmonary disease in females.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The facilities offered by the Public Health Laboratory at Poole have been available to us at all times and the friendly association which has been formed with Dr. King, the Director of the laboratory, has produced a fine state of mutual co-operation. We seek Dr. King's advice over a wide range of problems, and are most grateful for the deep personal interest which he takes in them all.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The West Hampshire Water Company supplies the major part of the district. The Company has extensive works at Christchurch where the water from the River Avon is treated by slow sand filtration and subsequent chloramination. The resultant water is of satisfactory purity and the supply is constant and adequate.

The Company continues to extend its mains and the Breamore and Linwood areas are now the only two large regions not covered. The supply of each of these areas is part of a larger plan which will eventually be carried out. The Company continues to transport water to the Linwood area.

During the year 50 samples were taken from premises not supplied with main water; 25 of these were found to be polluted. Statutory notices were served in connection with 7 premises.

The Water Company's record of premises supplied with main water is now as follows with the addition of certain converted ex-service huts whose direct supply passes through a central meter and which are therefore not recorded separately in the Company's books.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Dwellings supplied Direct</i>	<i>Approximate population supplied</i>
Martin	70	245
Rockbourne	79	277
Whitsbury	54	189
Breamore	Nil	Nil
Hale	70	245
Woodgreen	88	308
Damerham	66	231
Fordingbridge	916	3206
Harbridge and Ibsley	99 plus 91 huts	665
Ellingham	78 „ 5 „	290
St. Leonards and St. Ives	392	1372
Ringwood	1824	6384
Burley	425	1488
Hurn	1 plus 51 huts	182
Sopley	68 „ 30 „	343
Christchurch East ..	706 „ 320 „	3591

Two public standpipes are erected in Thorney Hill Compound for the use of the gipsy community numbering at present about 14 families.

The new Matchams establishment of the Bournemouth Water Company came into use in September. This consists of an intake on the Avon from which raw water is pumped by means of Diesel driven pumps through a 36 in. main to the Company's old works at Longham and on to the treatment works at Alderney. The maximum permitted weekly intake is 70 million gallons with a daily maximum of 11 million. At present the Company is drawing about

6 million gallons daily from the river. There is a modern pump house containing twin Diesel engines, with space for the installation of two further engines if the need should arise. As the site is isolated, living quarters for the staff have been constructed together with a small sewage treatment plant from which the chlorinated effluent runs to the Avon below the water intake point. An interesting feature of the establishment is the provision made for the utilisation of the exhaust heat for the production of hot water for heating and domestic purposes.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

At the Ringwood Works sewage continues to be disposed of in a reasonably satisfactory fashion by land irrigation. In order to relieve the land which has been in use for so long a further $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres is being acquired, and this should enable a longer period of rest to be given to each portion. It is realised that this is a temporary expedient and that at some time in the not so distant future modern sewage treatment works will have to be established.

The night soil from Fordingbridge continues to be composted at Ringwood and finds a ready market. Composting of sewage sludge has been temporarily abandoned as there was little demand for the resultant product.

Work on the new Fordingbridge Sewerage system commenced in August and has continued steadily though not without difficulties and criticism. Providing there are no unforeseen set backs, the scheme should be completed within the next two years and the town provided with a long overdue amenity.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act 1944, came into force on 1st October, and with it its associated regulations. The local authority lost its powers to supervise the production of milk and retained only those powers which relate to the distributive side of the trade. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was given a power previously denied to local authorities, that is the power to refuse or cancel producers registrations. I have not heard that this power has been used in this area though there are premises where its use is indicated and would be fully justified.

Licensing of pasteurising and sterilising establishments became the duty of Food and Drugs authorities, in our case the Hampshire County Council, who have in turn delegated their powers in this matter to District Councils who are obviously in a much better position to supervise such premises through their own Sanitary officers.

My own feeling is that the 1944 Act will do nothing to improve the quality of milk as it is sold at present and the transfer of the supervisory powers to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is a retrograde step in so far as milk producers are less likely to receive

the intimate inspection which they can and do receive from the local sanitary inspector. The future provisions of the Act in so far as they envisage only three categories of milk, i.e. Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised, are excellent, but in the meantime a period of years will elapse during which milk of lethal potentialities for the young will continue to be sold and consumed. The townsman, largely served by the bulk purveyor, is in this matter more happily situated than the rural resident since already a high proportion of his milk is pasteurised and the provisions as to compulsory pasteurisation of milk other than T.T. milk will be brought into force at an earlier date than in rural areas. The countryman or the resident in small urban areas has seldom the advantage of pasteurised milk, and as the quantity of T.T. milk available is relatively small, he must drink either ordinary ungraded raw milk or milk which goes under the misleading title of "Accredited Milk," a term which serves only to give some warranty of the production and handling methods but none whatsoever of the health of the animal producing the milk, and in fact there is nothing to prevent an animal which is actively excreting tubercle bacilli in its milk from producing so called "Accredited Milk." Fortunately this term is to be discontinued but not until October, 1954, and new licences to produce milk with this misleading designation will continue to be granted until September, 1952. It has been argued that this designation is used frequently as a stepping stone by a farmer in his progress to a T.T. herd and this may in some cases be true, but there is nothing to prevent "Accredited Milk" being produced from a herd composed entirely of reactors to the Tuberculin Test discarded by farmers forming T.T. herds and sold in the open market without disclosure of the reason for sale.

In Rural areas the small producer retailer is always a potential menace selling as he frequently does raw milk of nameless quality. The Regulations have done nothing to improve the control over the milk he sells, and in fact since supervision has been removed from the local authority the position may well be worsened.

The number of milk producing premises registered with this Council on 30th September, 1949, immediately before the coming into force of the new Act was 364, an increase of 8 on the previous year. At the end of the year there were 61 Accredited licences and 60 T.T. licences. This shows the satisfactory increase of 17 T.T. licences over the previous year, an increase of nearly 40% in the total number of T.T. licences.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE.

The general unsuitability of the existing building for use as a central slaughter house has been the subject of comment in previous reports, and since no change or improvement has been made in the last year, these remarks are still applicable. No means of providing

a constant supply of hot water for hand washing has yet been provided, a highly objectionable state of affairs where food is being handled.

3,820 animals were slaughtered during the year, an increase of 77% on the numbers for the previous year but this increase was principally in the small animals. There were for instance, twice as many calves slaughtered as in the previous year and three times as many sheep and lambs.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Thorough inspection of all carcasses is carried out by your inspectors at the slaughter house. As a result of this inspection 33,227 pounds of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption, an increase of 73% on the previous year's figure.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1949.

	<i>Cattle excl. Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	299	619	1128	1580	194
Number inspected	299	619	1128	1580	194
ALL DISEASE EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	1	3	10	3	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	145	300	13	149	32
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	48.8%	48.9%	2.03%	9.6%	20.1%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	11	4	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	34	175	—	—	2
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	13.04%	30.04%	.3%	—	1.5%

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The County Council is the sampling authority and the following details of substances sampled within this area during the year ended 31st March, 1950, have been kindly supplied by the Chief Inspector, Mr. C. O. Perry.

<i>Article</i>					<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>	
					<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Butter and Other Fats	..	..	..	..	6	—
Cake, etc.	..	..	..	..	2	—
Drugs	..	..	..	..	2	—
Sausage and Other Meat Products					5	—
Spirits	..	..	..	..	4	—
Other Foods	..	..	..	..	11	—
Milk	..	..	..	..	61	2
Totals					91	2

The 63 milk samples contained an average of 3.64% Milk Fat and 8.82% Non-Fatty Solids.

The following 2 samples of milk proved to be unsatisfactory.

Two samples of milk were taken at St. Leonards, Ringwood, on Sunday, 8th May, 1949, and certified to contain 5.6% and 3.3% of added water respectively.

'Appeal to Cow' Samples taken the following morning were certified:

- (1) to contain 3.32% of Milk Fat and 8.5% of Non-Fatty Solids;
- (2) to contain 2.83% of Milk Fat and 8.67% of Non-Fatty Solids—this sample being 5.6% deficient in Milk Fat.

In view of the small percentage of added water in samples, the poor quality of milk produced by the cows, and the fact that this was the first case reported against the vendor, the matter was dealt with by way of caution.

FOOD POISONING.

One case of infection by food poisoning organisms, namely *Salmonella Typhi-murium*, was reported during the year. No definite source of infection was discovered though hen eggs were suspected. No other cases occurred in association. The patient was a small farmer and producer-retailer of raw milk, and he was kept out of contact with his milk until five negative specimens had been obtained.

WATERCRESS.

The watercress beds throughout the district were kept under general observation. The Damerham beds continued to be worked in a highly satisfactory fashion but the other beds at Burgate and Gorley were never particularly pleasing, largely owing to their deficient water supplies. The amount of cress cut from these latter beds is relatively small. In view of the intensive sampling done in the past and the general consistency of the results, both good and bad, it has not been thought necessary to continue to take samples this year.

SCHOOLS.

There has been no notable change in the schools throughout the area and conditions of overcrowding remain prevalent. The School meals scheme continues to expand and additional kitchens have been built at Martin and Hinton. Fordingbridge school used a kitchen and dining room in premises which were formerly the Public Assistance Institution. This was taken over by the Regional Hospital Board and the school given notice to quit. As a result of this action the school was without school meals from Easter onwards. Only one school is now without main water. No progress has been made in the provision of water borne sanitation, but a general review of the situation in rural schools throughout the County has been carried out and improvements will be made in selected schools as and when the opportunity occurs. Many small rural schools are out of date and will at some time have to be rebuilt and others are on plots of ground too small to permit of the installation of water borne sanitation.

CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council as the Child Welfare Authority continues to operate Child Welfare Clinics at four centres throughout the area namely at Woodgreen, Fordingbridge, Ringwood and Holmsley. The clinics are staffed by an Assistant County Medical Officer and a Health Visitor. The administration of the centres together with the sale and distribution of welfare foods and medicaments is conducted by voluntary workers for whose continued assistance we remain deeply grateful, particularly in these days when the voluntary spirit is being increasingly discouraged.

SECTION 47 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

The National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, gave high hopes that we should be able to cope with certain old people who were living alone and who were not receiving proper attention and were in many cases becoming a danger to themselves and to others. As however the operation of this section necessitates that the people shall be living in "insanitary surroundings" it was not found possible to invoke it in any one case. Untidiness and some degree of dirt were frequently present but not sufficient to warrant calling the surroundings insanitary. It would appear that the scope of this section is too limited to be of any material assistance in the problem. A number of cases brought to my notice have been referred to the Area Welfare Officer and I would pay tribute to the excellent co-operation which exists between us, and to the help which I have received from this Officer.

Two households were the subject of particular attention in the early part of the year. In one case successful action could have been

taken under Section 47 of the Act but eventually it proved possible to persuade the old lady to enter an institution voluntarily, where she promptly died. In the other, a determined recluse, there was good reason to believe that she was living in insanitary surroundings but entry to the house was refused. When entry was achieved it was not found that the surroundings could reasonably be certified to be "insanitary."

THORNEY HILL COMPOUND.

The general condition of the inhabitants of this encampment, and of several smaller gipsy communities in the area has not changed during the year. Twelve families from Thorney Hill have now been housed by the Council in converted ex- R.A.F. huts on temporary housing sites, but 14 families continue to live on the Compound in miserable shacks constructed of assorted remnants of timber, rusty corrugated iron and rotting canvas, under conditions of gross overcrowding and inter-mingling of the sexes. The floors of these shacks are bare earth and in wet weather all are surrounded by a morass of sticky black mud through which the children must wade to school, in usually quite inadequate footwear. It is a tribute to the hardiness of the race that they survive under such conditions, but a sad reflection on our modern social system that such conditions should still exist.

The problem of round worm infestation has continued to exercise us during the year, but in so far as it is bound up with the primitive sanitary habits of the gipsy, no really satisfactory solution has yet been reached. At the time of writing an attempt is being made to enforce improved sanitary habits on the community and the result of this experiment will be reported at a later date. I described in last year's report the difficulties associated with the control of this infection in primitive communities.

HOUSING.

So much has been said in recent years by speakers in all walks of life and of all shades of political and other opinion about the evils which are resulting from the continued housing shortage that I feel there is nothing I can add to the general opinion. The stark facts in this area are that at the end of the year there were approximately 850 names on the Council's waiting list for houses, and that during the year only 80 Council houses were completed and a further 29 private houses. The waiting list at the end of the previous year stood at 750, so it is apparent that the problem is very far from being in sight of solution.

The number of ex-service huts under requisition has shown a small increase and the Council now has 254 families housed in this very temporary type of accommodation which will however perforce have to remain inhabited for years to come.

Dwellings administered by the Council at 31/12/49.

Permenent Houses	332
Prefabs	50
Requisitioned Houses (family units) ..	42
Huts under requisition (family units) ..	254

HOUSING ACT INSPECTIONS.

1. *Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—*

Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	150
No. of inspections made for the purpose	213
No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	138

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—*

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ..	28
---	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—*

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	<i>Nil</i>
--	------------

Proceedings under Public Health Act:—

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	<i>Nil</i>
---	------------

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	<i>Nil</i>
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted.	<i>Nil</i>

HURN AIRPORT.

Hurn was recognised as a Sanitary Airport on September 23rd, 1949. The health control has continued on the lines described in previous reports and medical inspection of passengers on arrival was carried out as in the previous year by Dr. A. S. Peffers, Dr. W. D. Higson, and Dr. C. Conyers Morrell.

The number of aircraft arriving from abroad and the passenger traffic showed a considerable decrease, the figures being less than half the average for the two previous years. With the continued growth of the landing facilities in the London area and the progressive improvements in bad weather landing aids, there is likely to be a continued reduction in the number of passengers arriving from abroad in the years to come.

No cases of the five "Convention" diseases arrived at the Airport during the year.

ARRIVALS, 1949.

<i>Month</i>	<i>No of Aircraft</i>	<i>No of Crew</i>	<i>No. of British Passengers</i>	<i>No. of Aliens.</i>
January	10	71	56	60
February	14	92	139	59
March	4	27	17	—
April	4	18	1	—
May	5	28	49	3
June	2	8	32	—
July	7	20	38	—
August	4	25	16	—
September	3	9	8	—
October	8	46	20	31
November	36	224	225	205
December	8	44	11	3
Total	105	612	612	361

GENERAL REMARKS.

The health of the area has been satisfactory throughout the year. A widespread outbreak of measles occurred in the first half of the year. The incidence of other infectious diseases was low.

The population continues to rise but less rapidly than in the previous three years.

The Death Rate was higher than the previous years record low figure. The Birth Rate fell for the second year in succession. The Infant Mortality Rate was the lowest ever recorded in this area.

The Housing problem is no nearer solution.

The Rural Housing Survey has progressed rapidly.

In conclusion I wish once again to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council for their constant encouragement, to the Clerk for much helpful advice, and to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his staff for their continued help and co-operation throughout the year.

D. J. N. McNAB,
Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1949 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	42	25	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	91	41	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	—	3	—	—
TOTAL ..	133	69	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)					
Overcrowding (S.2) ..					
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)					
Inad. ventilation (S.4) ..					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ..	2	1		1	
(b) unsuitable of defective ..	1				
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..					
TOTAL ..	3	1		1	

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of outworkers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel (Making etc.,	79	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and Washing						

RURAL DISTRICT OF
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Surveyor

FOR THE YEAR

1949

*Public Offices,
Ringwood.
June, 1950.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
RINGWOOD AND FORDINGBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit my report as your Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, dealing with work carried out by my Department during the year 1949.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	198
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	182
Nuisances and Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	856
Milk and Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	250
Factories Act	..	..	..	..	..	69
Meat and Food	..	..	..	..	..	231
Slaughtermens' Licences	..	..	..	..	..	5
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	360
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	34
Housing	..	..	..	..	..	214
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	216
Gipsy Encampments	..	..	..	..	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	33
Petroleum and Carbide Storage Premises	..	..	..	..	..	82
Services administered by the Council	..	..	..	..	..	1039
Building Byelaws	..	..	..	..	..	1223
Building Licences	..	..	..	..	..	144
Small Dwelling Licences	..	..	..	..	..	20
Housing Estates	..	..	..	..	..	1255
Town Planning	..	..	..	..	..	385
TOTAL VISITS AND INSPECTIONS						6802

COMPLAINTS.

184 complaints of nuisances were received during the year, involving a total of 856 visits and inspections—details are as follows:—

<i>Nature of Nuisance</i>	<i>Complaints Received</i>	<i>Number of Visits.</i>
Insanitary Conditions	73	275
Unsatisfactory and insufficient Water supplies	8	198
Overcrowding	3	11
Gipsy encampments	1	6
Smoke	3	19
Bug, flea or fly infestations	4	18

Offensive smells	..	..	..	3	20
Cesspools and drains	..	..	..	18	47
Milk and Dairies	..	..	..	4	6
Animals	..	..	..	3	13
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	64	145
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	4	98

Where a nuisance or defect is found to exist, an informal notice is served upon the person responsible; a procedure which generally proves effective. In no instance was Statutory action necessary to obtain the execution of remedial works.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of inspections made	..	..	..	198
Number of samples collected	..	..	..	50
Number of samples reported polluted	..	..	..	25
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	7
Houses connected to main supply as a result of Statutory Notices	..	..	..	17
Houses connected to main supply as a result of Informal Notices	..	..	..	19
Houses provided with wholesome supplies other than mains as a result of Statutory or Informal Notices	..	..	..	7

Included in the above are a number of premises provided with a wholesome supply of water during the year where notices were served the previous year.

As a result of the exceptional drought conditions experienced during the summer months many wells in the rural district dried up and in two areas water was transported by the Council. The West Hants Water Company co-operated by making available to the Council the necessary storage tanks.

SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY COUNCIL.

<i>Services.</i>						<i>Visits made.</i>
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	57
Sewage Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	642
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	129
Cattle Pound	..	..	..	..	..	9
Car Parks	..	..	..	..	..	56
Ditching	..	..	..	..	..	8
Street Nameplates	..	..	..	..	..	34
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	104

SEWERAGE.

RINGWOOD SEWERAGE.

The Bickerley and Moortown Pumping Stations have been

efficiently maintained during the year. Disposal at the Ringwood Sewage Works continues to be difficult due to the increased effluent flows: this will be alleviated when the additional piece of land— $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres—which the Council has agreed to purchase—comes into use. The Public Health Committee is aware that the existing land irrigation system must ultimately be replaced by percolating filter beds discharging a purified effluent into the River Avon.

NIGHT-SOIL COLLECTIONS.

The Hampshire Cleansing Service carries out, on behalf of the Council, bi-weekly collections in the lighting area of Fordingbridge covering 356 premises. The nightsoil is conveyed to the Ringwood Sewage Disposal Works.

COMPOST.

The night-soil is composted at the Ringwood Sewage Disposal Works and sold. Composting of sewage sludge has been experimented with on lines agreed with the late Sir Albert Howard when he visited these Works, but as repeated advertisements have failed to find a ready market for this, the composting of sludge has been temporarily discontinued.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS.

The Council undertake a combined collection of household and unburnable refuse weekly in the lighting areas of Ringwood and Fordingbridge. A collection of unburnable refuse only is carried out monthly in the remainder of the district. Receptacles have to be placed outside premises as near as practicable to the roadway along which the collection vehicle proceeds. The following Schedule shewing collection days is produced for the information of Councillors:—

WEEKLY SERVICE.

Lighting Area of the Parish of Ringwood

Bickerley, Carvers Lane, the Close, College Road, Collins Lane, Coxstone Lane, Deweys Lane, High Street, Hightown Road from Christchurch Road to Quomp, Kings Arms Lane, Kingsbury Lane	} Every Monday
Lynes Lane, Market Place, Meeting House Lane, Middle Lane, Northumberland Court, Nursery Road, Quomp, Riverside, School Lane, Star Lane, Strides Lane, Top Lane, West Street (part), Woodstock Lane.	
Addison Square, Beechcroft Lane, Broadshard Lane, Christchurch Road, (part), Cloughs Road, Duck Island, Eastfield Lane, East View Road, Farilie, Fridays Cross, Gipsy Lane, Gravel Lane, Highfield Road, Hightown Road from Quomp to Eastfield Lane, Hiltom Road, Hurst Corner, Manor Road, Meadow Road, Middleton Road, Morant Road, Mount Pleasant, New Street, Northfield Road, North Poulner Road (part), Parsonage Barn Lane, Salisbury Road (part), Seymour Road, Southampton Road (part), Southfield, Wessex Road, Westbury Road.	} Every Tuesday

Lighting Area of the Parish of Fordingbridge.

Albion Road, Alexandra Road, Ashford Road (part) Back Street, The Bartons, Bowerwood Road (part), Bridge Street, Church Street, Green Lane, High Street, Horseport, Jubilee Road, Market Place, Park Road, Provost Street, Roundhill, Salisbury Road (part), Salisbury Street, Shaftesbury Street, Station Road, St. George's Road, The Square, Victoria Road, Whitsbury Road (part, Waverley Road.	} Every Wednesday
---	----------------------

MONTHLY SERVICE

The whole of the Parishes of:—

Martin, Rockbourne and Whitsbury	2nd Thurs. in every month
Woodgreen and Hale	2nd Thurs. in every month
St. Leonards and St. Ives	1st Thurs. in every month
Ellingham (including the areas of Blashford, Rock- ford, Highwood, Linwood, Linford and Shobley)	3rd Thurs. in every month
Harbridge and Iblesey (including the areas of South Gorley, Furzehill, Mockbeggar, Ibsley, Harbridge Green, Bleak Hill and Turner)	3rd Thurs. in every month
Ringwood (Non-Lighting Area) including the areas of North Poulner, Hangersley, Hightown, Crow, Crow Hill, Moortown, Kingston, Sandford and Bisterne	4th Thurs. in every month
Damerham and Breamore	1st Friday in every month
Fordingbridge (Non-Lighting Area) (including the areas of Burgate, Sandleheath, Bickton, North Gorley, Ogdens, Hungerford, Hyde, Frogham, Stuckton, Blissford and Godshill)	2nd Friday in every month
Sopley (including the areas of Avon, Ripley and Shirley)	1st Friday in every month
Hurn (including the areas of Parley Green and East Parley)	1st Friday in every month
Christchurch East (including the areas of Winkton, Burton, Bransgore, Neacroft, Thorneyhill and Hinton	3rd Friday in every month
Burley (including the area of Burley Street) ..	4th Friday in every month

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Controlled tipping is exercised at the Refuse Dumps situate at Ashley and Sandleheath where all precautions, including spraying, are carried out to prevent nuisance from offensive odours and flies. Pre-baiting and poisoning is regularly and continuously undertaken to deal with rat infestation.

During the year 4,625 cubic yards of house refuse was dealt with at Ashley Dump and 2,282 cubic yards at Sandleheath Dump.

STREET CLEANSING.

The cleansing of streets in the town areas of Ringwood and Fordingbridge has been maintained as satisfactorily as possible, inasmuch as the labour employed on this work consists of loaders from the refuse freighters whose services are only available after the completion of collections. Special efforts are now necessary to clean up the Market Place following the weekly Wednesday market which has considerably increased in size.

COUNCIL DEPOT.

The installation of a petrol pump with underground tank has been completed thus permitting bulk supplies of petrol to be purchased. All the buildings in use are very dilapidated.

SALVAGE.

Salvage sales for the year amounted to £740 12s. 7½d.—details are shown in the following summary:—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qtrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Doz.</i>	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	87	18	2	1	—	510	0	1½
Textiles ..	5	1	0	23	—	104	8	9
Bones	2	0	2	9	—	11	13	2½
Ferrous Metals	21	7	0	14	—	54	13	5
Non Ferrous Metals ..	—	9	0	23	—	12	13	11½
Bottles and Jars					1963	47	3	2
	116	16	2	14	1963	740	12	7½

Salvage sales for previous years are shown below; the sales for the years 1942 and 1943 included large book drives.

£	£	£	£
1941 .. 414	1943 .. 1089	1945 .. 574	1947 .. 342
1942 .. 1208	1944 .. 908	1946 .. 495	1948 .. 949

A waste paper publicity campaign was organized during the month of March at the request of the Directorate of Salvage and Recovery. In June the Directorate informed Local Authorities that there existed in the Country a surplus of waste paper and extreme difficulty was experienced in disposing of the paper collected and baled. The Orders and Regulations containing the compulsory salvage provisions relating to paper, rags and bones were revoked in July.

OTHER COUNCIL SERVICES.

CAR PARKS.

Levelling and surfacing works were completed at the Fordingbridge Park early in the year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The conveniences at Ringwood have been maintained as satisfactorily as possible but serious abuse and nuisance continues;

locks and fittings are damaged and obscene scribbling and drawings made on the walls. The attention of the Police has been drawn to this from time to time.

Conveniences at the Lamb Inn, Ringwood, have been taken over by the Council and suitably altered to provide temporary public conveniences.

HOUSING.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, rural authorities are carrying out comprehensive surveys of housing conditions as a basis for long term improvement programmes. Houses are examined in relation to matters prescribed in the Housing Act and Regulations and classified as follows:—

<i>Category.</i>	<i>Condition of Dwelling.</i>	<i>Normal Action.</i>
1.	Satisfactory in all respects.	No action.
2.	Minor defects.	Informal Action or Public Health Acts.
3.	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.	Section 9 or Section 11—Housing Act, 1936—Acquisition by local authority in appropriate cases.
4.	Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.	Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, Section 11 Housing Act, 1936. Acquisition by local authority in appropriate cases.
5.	Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense	Section 11 (individual houses) Section 25 (Clearance Areas) Housing Act, 1936.

The Hampshire Joint Rural Housing Committee decided that the houses should also be divided into three groups according to the public utility services available viz.—

- GROUP A All services available i.e. piped water supply, water carriage sewerage system, gas or electricity.
- GROUP B Restricted number of services available and others likely to be available in the near future.
- GROUP C Rural conditions only; services not available or anticipated to be available in the near future.

This work has steadily proceeded throughout the year, and to date 3,941 houses, including 176 huts, have been completed and catergorised as follows:—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Cate- gory 1</i>	<i>Cate- gory 2</i>	<i>Cate- gory 3</i>	<i>Cate- gory 4</i>	<i>Cate- gory 5</i>	
Ringwood	1138	156	316	525	3	138	
Martin	126	18	13	55	14	26	
St. Leonards & St. Ives	331	168	50	108	—	5	
Fordingbridge	836	127	113	478	3	115	
Rockbourne	77	10	8	51	—	8	
Whitsbury	36	12	6	17	—	1	
Damerham	137	8	15	96	—	18	
Woodgreen	89	19	15	38	—	17	
Hale	107	27	15	50	2	13	
Breamore	142	6	9	125	—	2	
Sopley	142	26	11	105	—	—	
Harbridge and Ibsley	230	35	30	74	—	91	inc. 88 Coun. Huts
Ellingham	14	1	2	3	—	8	inc. 8 Coun. Huts
Hurn	132	11	10	24	—	87	inc. 80 Coun. Huts
Burley	116	61	6	43	—	6	
Christchurch East	288	96	17	106	—	69	
	3941	781	636	1898	22	604	176

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

This Act came into operation on the 30th July. By deleting references to “working classes” in certain sections of the 1936 Act it permits local authorities to provide housing accommodation for all classes of the community and brings all types of dwellings within the provisions of Part 2 of that Act relating to the repair, demolition and closing of insanitary premises.

The new Act introduces provisions for financial assistance to private owners for the improvement of existing houses, and the provision of dwellings by conversion works. In order to rank for an Improvement Grant the dwelling must provide satisfactory housing accommodation for at least 30 years and conform with the Ministry’s standards.

It is interesting to record that the Standard for Improvement of Dwellings is the same as the Standard of Fitness for a satisfactory house recommended by the Central Advisory Committee in 1948, under the Chairmanship of Sir Miles Mitchell, which the Minister then stated he desired to make effective at the earliest moment practicable.

This recommended standard is as follows, but it is appreciated that in some rural areas the degree of application of the standard will be dependant on the public services which are available.

The dwelling should—

- 1.—Be in all respects dry.
- 2.—Be in a good state of repair.
- 3.—Have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- 4.—Have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on for all purposes inside the dwelling.
- 5.—Be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- 6.—Have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water closet.
- 7.—Have a fixed bath preferably in a separate room.
- 8.—Be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water.
- 9.—Be provided with facilities for domestic washing, including a copper, preferably in a separate room.
- 10.—Have a proper drainage system.
- 11.—Be provided with adequate points for artificial lighting in each room.
- 12.—Be provided with adequate facilities, for heating each habitable room.
- 13.—Have satisfactory facilities for preparing and cooking food.
- 14.—Have a well ventilated larder or food store.
- 15.—Have proper provision for the storage of fuel.
- 16.—Have a satisfactory surfaced path to outbuildings and convenient access from a street to the back door.

HOUSING ACT INSPECTIONS.

Routine house to house inspections were again impossible, but inspections carried out upon receipt of complaints resulted in the service of 42 informal notices.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

ANIMAL CARCASSES.

Routine inspections of all animals slaughtered were continued throughout the year at the Ministry of Food Slaughter House at Ringwood, involving the detailed examination of all carcasses and offal; 231 visits were made for this purpose.

The total number of carcasses inspected at the Slaughter House was 3,820 made up as follows:—

Cattle	299	Cows	619
Sheep and Lambs	1580	Pigs	194
Calves	1128		

As a result of these examinations 33,227 lbs. of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption; diseases and weights are:—

<i>Disease or Condition.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Distomatosis	4747
Tuberculosis	23159
Fatty Infiltration	28
Angiomatosis	765
Rat Contamination	1½
Traumatic Pericarditis	12
Fracture and Bruising	194
Strongylosis	12
Inflammation	515
Cirrhosis	251
Abscess	190
Fevered	191
Milk Spot	2
Hepatitis	2
Fat Necrosis	18
Peritonitis	90
Swine Erysipelas	196
Hyraemia	84
Johnes	30
Nephritis	15
Decomposition	45
Pneumonia	4
Emaciation	492
Immaturity	174
Septicaemia	286
Physick Odour	409
Bronchial Pneumonia	15
Hydatid Cyst	4
Fibrous Growth	11
C. Bovis	420½
Actinomycosis	62
Dropsy	790
Hydro Nephrosis	6
Bact. Necrosis	2
Pericarditis	4

33227

During routine inspection a calf was found to be affected with congenital T.B. and was accordingly condemned. The matter was reported immediately to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to enable this Officer to carry out investigations to discover the whereabouts of the calf's mother which was subsequently found at a Lymington Dairy Farm and the cow in question, upon ante mortem examination, was discovered to be affected with Tuberculosis and accordingly slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

OTHER FOODS

360 inspections of food premises were made including inspections of Ice Cream premises.

91 visits were made in connection with the examination of foodstuffs at food shops and stores, the quantities found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered were as follows:—

Milk	..	..	..	..	347	tins
Vegetables	..	..	..	..	49	tins
Fruit	..	..	..	..	38	tins
Soup	..	..	..	..	9	tins
Fish	..	..	..	..	24	tins and 21 stone
Fish cakes	..	..	..	..	221	
Fish paste	..	..	..	..	3	
Sugar	..	..	..	..	73½	lbs.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	15	lbs. and 66 packets
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	19	cwts.
Macaroni	..	..	..	..	2	lbs.
Flour	..	..	..	..	3	lbs.
Butter	..	..	..	..	3	lbs.
Shredded Wheat	..	..	..	..	13	packets
Creamola Puddings	..	..	..	..	18	
Pork	..	..	..	..	6	tins
Pork Brawn	..	..	..	..	12	lbs.
Pork Sausages	..	..	..	..	35	lbs.
Suet	..	..	..	..	21	lbs. and 3 packets
Marmalade	..	..	..	..	1	tin
Nougat Bars	..	..	..	..	16	doz.
Orange Juice	..	..	..	..	2	tins
Pig's trotters	..	..	..	..	26	lbs.
Sponge Mixtures	..	..	..	..	5	lbs.
Meat Pies	..	..	..	..	5	
Veal	..	..	..	..	4	tins
Ox head and tongue	..	..	..	..	33	lbs.
Pressed Beef	..	..	..	..	104	lbs.
Beef Loaf	..	..	..	..	4	tins
Beef	..	..	..	..	240	lbs.

Luncheon meat	..	..	8	tins
Corned mutton	..	..	2	tins and 6 lbs.
Imported beef	..	..	231½	lbs.
Jellied beef	..	..	20	lbs.
Ham loaf	..	..	1	tin
Pressed Lamb	..	..	10¼	lbs.
Luncheon Sausage	..	..	3	lbs. 10 ozs.
Minced loaf	..	..	1	tin
Peas	..	..	57	lbs.

ICE CREAM.

202 samples of Ice Cream were collected during the year for bacteriological examination and methylene blue test and in cases where the bacteriologist's reports were considered to be unsatisfactory detailed investigations were made into the manufacture and handling of the ices. The samples were graded by the Bacteriologist as follows:—

Grade 1	..	..	..	..	104
Grade 2	..	..	..	..	32
Grade 3	..	..	..	..	31
Grade 4	..	..	..	..	29
No test—faulty samples	..	..	..	..	6
					<hr/> 202 <hr/>

Under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, no bacteriological standards are officially laid down for ice cream. The Ministry has, however, indicated that though there is no known test sufficiently reliable for use as a statutory test of its contamination with non-pathogenic organisms bacteriological tests may usefully be employed as an indication of possible faulty methods although no test has yet been devised of the safety of ice cream. Plate count, presence or absence of presumptive *B. coli* and standardised methylene blue reduction tests are the methods most used by bacteriologists.

Samples collected in this district are subjected to methylene blue tests at the Public Health Laboratory, Poole, and placed in one of four Grades as follows:—

<i>Provisional</i>					<i>Time taken to reduce</i>
<i>Grade</i>					<i>methylene blue.</i>
1	..	..	..	..	4½ hours or more
2	..	..	..	..	2½ to 4 hours.
3	..	..	..	..	½ to 2 hours.
4	..	..	..	..	0

This test and subsequent provisional grading is in respect of bacterial cleanliness only, and the Ministry emphasize that, owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream

and to the experimental error of the laboratory test itself, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological ~~test itself~~ ^{result}, on any given sample. Judgement should be based rather on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period 50 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1—80 per cent. into Grades 1 or 2—not more than 20 per cent. into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

No. of Wholesale/Retail Producers on Register at 30th September, 1949	364
No. of Retail Purveyors of Milk on Register other than Cowkeepers	8
Inspections made	250
Informal Notices served	22
Samples of milk collected	12
Samples of milk bottle rinses collected	26
Applications for registration received during year—	
Wholesale/Retail Producers	8
Total number of licences granted by the County Council to producers in this district:—	
(a) Accredited	61
(b) Tuberculin Tested	60

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, came into operation on the 1st October, together with the following:—

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949.

The registration of dairy farms and of dairy farmers is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; the registration of milk distributors and other dairy premises remains the responsibility of the Local Authority.

The following is a summary of the principle provisions of Milk and Dairies legislation now administered by the District Council:—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 22 as amended by the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.

Power to refuse or cancel registration of dairymen.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Registration of milk distributors and dairy premises (not being dairy farms).

Provisions relating to lighting, ventilation and water supplies etc. of dairy premises.

Provisions relating to construction of floors and walls and cleanliness of dairy premises.

Provisions with regard to cooling of milk on distributor's premises.

Provisions with regard to infection of milk and for protecting milk against contamination or infection.

Provisions relating to the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances and the conveyance and distribution of milk.

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The issue of dealers' licences and supplementary licences in respect of "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited" milk including refusal, suspension and revocation of dealers' licences.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterlised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The issuing of licences and supplementary licences for the use of the special designations "Pasteurised" and "Sterlised" except those in respect of actual pasteurising and sterilising establishments; and the refusal, suspension and revocation of such licences.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Three licences for bottling T.T. milk were granted during the year and three dealers' retailing licences permitting the use of this designation.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Under the provisions of this Act 23 licences were issued to slaughtermen. 3 slaughter house licences were renewed and 1 knacker's yard licence.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

	<i>Food Shops</i>	<i>Bake-Houses</i>	<i>Restaurant Kitchens</i>	<i>Ice-cream Premises</i>	<i>Preserved Food Premises</i>	<i>General</i>
No. on Register	138	18	15	38	29	—
Inspec'ns made	117	40	31	97	5	5

LICENSED PREMISES.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 89.

This section empowers Local Authorities to require the provision of sanitary conveniences at inns, public houses and refreshment houses. The Council have actively supported the Licensing Justices in requiring the provision of improved sanitary conveniences and drainage in some instances. The work of providing a

new drainage system and water closets was completed at one Inn as a result of the service of a statutory notice.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Number of moveable dwelling sites on register	95
Inspections made	216
Applications for licences received during year	47
Number of applications refused ..	13

CAMPING SITES.

The majority of the licences issued by the Council are in respect of sites for single dwellings; a number are occupied by owners of the sites who are unable to erect permanent homes because of building restrictions. The few licenced sites used for camping and holidays have been well maintained and free from nuisance. One unlicensed site became occupied by persons of an undesirable type and serious nuisances were committed. This was successfully dealt with by the Public Health Committee.

GIPSY CAMPS.

There exists a number of these encampments in the district and periodical inspections are made to ensure they give rise to no nuisance.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inspections made	34
Premises disinfected	11
Library Books destroyed	Nil

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Premises disinfested by Council (bugs and fleas)	6
--	---

SHOPS ACT.

Number on Register	269
Inspections made	182
Certificates of Exemption Issued ..	6

FACTORIES ACT.

The District Council is responsible for enforcing the provisions relating to sanitary conveniences in all factories and the provisions dealing with cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in those factories not using mechanical power.

Number on Register	133
Inspections made	69

RATS AND MICE.

Under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, a local authority may serve notice upon the occupier of any infested land or buildings who fails to destroy rats or mice.

The Infestation Order, 1943, made by the Minister of Food imposes numerous additional duties in connection with rodent control surveys and provides for the appointment of Rodent Operatives.

No Rodent Operatives are employed, but disinfection works are efficiently carried out by the Council in accordance with the Ministry of Food's system of pre-baiting. Poisons used include Zinc Phosphide, Arsenic, Red Squill and the new poison Alpha-Naphthyl-Thio-Urea (Antu.)

64 complaints were received of infested premises involving 145 visits.

SHORTAGE OF PETROLEUM AND CARBIDE.

Number of Premises on Register	70
Inspections made	82

BUILDING BYELAWS.

Inspections of foundations	262
Inspections of damp proof courses ..	249
Number of water tests applied	362
Number of premises connected to sewer	4
Inspections of connections to sewers ..	4
Inspections of completed works	250
Miscellaneous inspections	61
Contraventions of Buildings Bye-laws ..	35
Number of notices served	23
Number of notices complied with	23
Number of plans received	435
Number of plans approved	401
Number of plans rejected	32
Number of plans withdrawn	1
Number of plans not considered	1

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

This Act, which became operative on the 1st July, 1948, although transferring planning powers previously exercised by the District Council to the County Council, had the effect of considerably increasing the work of my Department. Regulations made under the Act laid down that all development applications were to be made to the District Council and the County Council delegated certain other powers in addition. My Department now receives and acknowledges development applications, forwards such applications

to the Area Planning Officer and subsequently notifies the Planning decision to the applicant. Every application is entered with appropriate details in the Planning Register and each site suitably indicated on the Planning Index Maps. Work is inspected during progress and upon completion, and the Area Planning Officer notified of satisfactory completion of the work or of any contravention. Unauthorised accesses and advertisements have also to be reported to him. Applications for determination of development charges are dealt with on behalf of the Central Land Board.

During the year 385 visits and inspections were made in connection with this work.

ESTATES MAINTENANCE.

The provision of temporary housing accommodation has again produced much additional work; more huts and buildings on disused airfields were taken over by the Council calling for the preparation and execution of comprehensive conversion schemes.

75 family units of accommodation were provided during the year by such conversions and a total of 652 inspections were made in connection with surveys, preparation of schemes, supervising conversion works and hut maintenance.

The Council now has a total of 703 occupied dwellings made up as shewn below; the proper maintenance of these scattered estates has become impossible:—

Permanent Houses	..	..	..	332
Prefabs.	..	..	..	50
Requisitioned Houses	..	..	..	42
Converted Huts (family units)	..	..	..	254
Huts occupied and awaiting conversion	..	..	..	25

Number of visits made in connection with maintenance works:

Permanent Council Houses	..	..	..	415
Prefabs.	..	..	..	51
Requisitioned Houses	..	..	..	99
Converted huts	..	..	..	652
Other Council Property	..	..	..	23

In connection with the Council's housing programme, 15 inspections of proposed sites were made.

BUILDING LICENCES.

No. of Repair Licence Applications received	..	201
No. of Repair Licence Applications approved	..	133
No. of Repair Licences refused	..	27
Total value of Repair Licences issued	..	£43,843
Total number of inspections and visits made for the purpose	..	144

SMALL DWELLING LICENCES.

No. of Small Dwelling Licence Applications received during the year	69
No. of outstanding Small Dwelling Licence Applications on register at end of year ..	127
No. of Small Dwelling Licences approved ..	17
No. of inspections and visits made for the purpose	20
Total number of dwellings for which licences have been authorised by the Council to date ..	164
No. of dwellings completed	124
No. of dwellings in course of erection	20
No. of dwellings not yet commenced but licences still operative	2
No. of dwellings in respect of which licences have become void or withdrawn	14

CONCLUSION.

I am indebted to Dr. McNab for his co-operation and to the staff for interest shewn in the work of the Department, and the readiness of the Sanitary Inspectors to undertake duties outside usual office hours.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and members of my Committees for their support and consideration during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Your Obedient Servant,

RONALD A. UPSTONE,

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

